

V.I.P. NEWS

(Volunteers In Print)

AIDS Network of Edmonton Society

488-5742

Volume 6, Issue 2

1994 MARCH/APRIL

National Volunteer Appreciation Week

April 17th to 23rd, 1994



Thank You Volunteers! Your tremendous effort and dedication does not go unnoticed!

Thanks for making a difference!

The entire staff at the AIDS Network would like to invite you to attend our

Volunteer Appreciation Social.

Wednesday, April 20th

7 - 10 p.m.

Network Boardroom

<i>Music</i>	<i>Fellowship</i>
<i>Nibbles</i>	<i>Friendship</i>
<i>Fun</i>	<i>Conversation</i>
<i>Laughter</i>	<i>Enthusiasm</i>



\$94.00 for all conference sessions
& meals

Free Hop a Bus

Grande Prairie

June 9th, 10th, 11th

Any questions?

Call John Kopek or

Shelly Borowski at 422-9305

NEEDED

Bookcases - various sizes.

In fact any size will do.

If you can help out
please call us at 488-5742

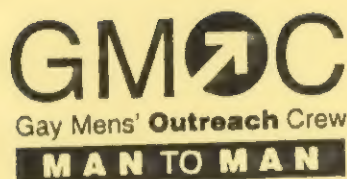
HELPLINE



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GMOC started out with a small group of only five volunteers and over the last four years has grown to a membership of 25 to 30 people. These men work hard to help promote positive gay models, encourage positive self-esteem and safer sex.

They have truly made an impact on Edmonton's gay community and are now being recognized nationally. This is no small feat to achieve and GMOC would not be the group it is without it's hardworking dedicated and sometimes "a little crazy" volunteers.

One such volunteer is Allen M. I would like to share with you a conversation I had with him as an introduction to a new feature of the GMOC update, the GMOC Profile.

GMOC: How long have you been a member of GMOC?

Allen: Hard question, I think since the spring of 1992.

GMOC: You started out with the AIDS Network Edmonton as a buddy in the buddy program, right?

Allen: Yes, that's right.

GMOC: Why did you decide to join GMOC?

Allen: To immerse myself in the reality of AIDS and being gay.

GMOC: Over the last two years, what have you done with GMOC? What have you accomplished.

Allen: I've done a lot of the Blitzes and Displays we do around the city, which hopefully has resulted in educating people.

GMOC: You were also involved with GMOC's new poster, logo and Man-To-Man Series promotion released last summer, weren't you?

Allen: Yes, I was. It was a very

interesting and educational process.
GMOC: What are you involved with now with GMOC?

Allen: I am the liaison for GMOC with the Pride Week Committee and I'm still involved with the outreach.

GMOC: What is your vision for GMOC? What direction would you like to see us go?

Allen: I definitely would like us to do some more fundraising and to become a bigger and more stable presence in the community and to continue our work on self-esteem and self confidence issues.

GMOC: Personally, what do you want to get out of GMOC?

Allen: I would like to go to bed at night knowing that people are having safer sex!

GMOC: What are some other things you are currently involved in?

Allen: I'm currently involved with the production of the Pride Week Passport and my partner and I are going to the Pride March in New York on June 26th. Oh...and I also make fridge magnets.

GMOC: Fridge magnets?

Allen: Yes, it's something I do to relax and I really enjoy it.

GMOC: It's been great talking with you Allen. Thanks for all your help over the last couple of years.

Allen: Thanks, wanna a fridge magnet?

GMOC: Yeah, sure! I'll stick it on my fridge.

Catch next month's VIP Newsletter for another exciting and indepth interview of a GMOC volunteer.

St. Patrick's Day, Easter and Pride Week are coming up, so you can expect GMOC to be out there celebrating these events and promoting positive, encouraging messages.

For now, take care and be happy! I am, because I have a great fridge magnet that just finishes off my kitchen.

Denis Couillard



The Man to Man Series helps men learn about themselves and safer sex options. They are Fun and Empowering

Talking Sex

This half day session explores how to make safer sex more erotic and fun. Let's look at safer sex options, share experiences and discover new ways of practicing safer sex.

Men Meeting Men:

Sex, Dating and Intimacy

The title says it all. This full day session is about love, relationships, sex, being gay and strengthening bonds with each other.

Being Gay in the Nineties

Eight weekly sessions ranging from risk taking, negotiating, coming out, and being gay in the world of HIV/AIDS.

For more information or to register for the Man To Man Series call 988-3671

AIDS In The Workplace Demonstration Project

The AIDS In The Workplace, phase one, funded by the Edmonton Community Foundation, Levi Strauss and Co. (Canada) Inc. and the Edmonton Realtors' Charitable Foundation is up and running. The project will assist businesses in tailoring policy and educational programs to their specific needs.

Bill MacDonald, project Manager and Catherine Reininger, Administrative Assistant have met with local and national health and AIDS organizations. Bill has identified local business leaders who will serve as the project's advisors.

Meetings between project staff, the advisors and the Training Consultation Team (professionals experienced in HIV/AIDS issues) are in the works as the project advances into the second of its four phases.

If you would like to become involved as a volunteer in this exciting project, give Bill MacDonald a call at the Network.

Bill MacDonald



HEALTH PROMOTION HIV AND AIDS RESOURCE KIT

Canadian AIDS Society
1993

* also available in French

TAKING CARE OF EACH OTHER: HEALTH PROMOTION IN COMMUNITY BASED AIDS WORK

AIDS Vancouver, B.C.
1993

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE FOR THE CARE OF PERSONS WITH HIV DISEASE: MODULE 1: ADULT MEN, WOMEN, ADOLESCENTS

The College of Family
Physicians of Canada
Mississauga, Ont.
1993

* also available in French

NEW PREFERRED RESOURCE PACKAGES

- (1) Teenage Sexuality
- (2) Gay Youth
- (3) Complementary Therapies

SUPPORT GROUPS

The number and variety of support groups continues to grow.

These are the most recent additions.

Aboriginal Persons Living With HIV/AIDS

Wednesday 7 - 9 p.m.

Meeting Location: AIDS Network
Drop-in Centre

This is an ongoing weekly drop-in group facilitated by the Feather of Hope Society support staff. This group provides a safe place for Aboriginal people who are HIV+ or have AIDS. They meet, receive and provide support in a traditional manner. Family and friends welcome! For more information contact Barb or Joan at 488-5773.

Heterosexual/HIV+ Support Group

3rd Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.

This is a monthly facilitated support group where heterosexual individuals and couples meet to provide mutual support. Contact Bernie Modrovsky at 492-6098 for information.

Bereavement Support Group

Thursday evenings

An eight-week professionally facilitated support group for people who have experienced loss or bereavement as a result of an AIDS related death. Meetings begin Thursday, January 27th. Discussion with one of the facilitators is required for attending. Please contact Don Freeman at 496-5910 or Linda Phillips at 492-9503.

CONTINUING SUPPORT GROUPS

HIV+ Gay Men's Support Group

This group meets weekly. Phone 488-5742 or 488-5768 for information.

Family, Friends and Partners Support Group

Thursday nights. Phone 488-5742 for information.

Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
Wednesday 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Contact Bernie Modrovsky 492-6098.

HIV+ Women's Support

This group meets weekly, alternating afternoons and evenings. Contact Sari Friedman-Rosner at 424-6346 for information

Monday Night Support Group (Living Positive)

Monday nights. Contact Charlotte at 488-5768 for information prior to attending

A more personal and understanding approach to AIDS

As the AIDS epidemic enters its second decade it is clear that for the foreseeable future the numbers of infected individuals will continue to increase. In Canada the disease has historically been associated with homosexual and bisexual men and intravenous drug users.

One of the trends that has emerged in the nineties is the growing incidence of infection through heterosexual contact. HIV infection through heterosexual contact is becoming the fastest growing route of transmission. The incidence of infection among women with young children is now becoming a larger issue.

The implications of more mothers being infected are being felt by support services. When someone is raising a family, gaining access to medical and emotional support is difficult when coupled with the daily strain of running a household.

*Our clients have asked
us to concentrate on
developing more
practical supports*

If one adds to this, the numerous opportunistic illness and treatment demands of living with AIDS, the amount of support needed is significant.

Our clients have asked us to concentrate on developing more practical supports. We are currently in the process of expanding our volunteer base and expertise in order to meet this need.

The influence of the Caring Together project is also being felt in how we train and support our volunteers. In our regular workshops and meetings, we are constantly challenging one another to examine the primacy of the client and what that means in practice.

This has meant remaining vigilant against making assumptions for our clients, imposing our own values and agendas on clients, and how any of our actions on behalf of clients must be undertaken with their approval.

Although there has been an awareness in the past of these issues, in recent months we have found that often our undermining of client primacy can take subtle forms.

For example, our volunteers have indicated that they routinely shared their own experiences as a volunteer with their spouse. Although this type of sharing of experiences is seemingly harmless, it does involve revealing intimate details of a client's life.

Therefore, volunteers are instructed that if they are planning on discussing a client's situation with a family member they will need to ask their clients permission to do so.

Although it feels quite natural to talk to those close to us about our experiences, we must always keep in mind that ultimately the decision to do so rests with the client.

Dave Sokolan

The staff of Support
Services would like to thank the
many volunteers who have helped
make it easier for those who have
died of AIDS and to those who have
also helped ease some of the grief for
their families.



Organizers of the recent Black and White Affair, a fund raiser for the AIDS Network of Edmonton Society, are overwhelmed with the response to this year's event.

"Close to 500 people bought tickets this year," says Chairperson Donald Michalkow. "That's more than twice as many as last year, and has helped the Black and White become a money-maker for the first time in the Network's history.

"A great deal of that success has to do with the addition of a Silent Auction this year," he says. Under the leadership of AIDS Network board member Sharon Marcus, the auction alone raised over \$10,000.

Overall proceeds from the Black and White are expected to exceed \$15,000.

Commerce Place, for the second year in a row, played an integral role in this event. "We have been extremely fortunate to have Commerce Place as our major event sponsor," says Donald. "Vickie Zern and Kevin Smith have truly gone above and beyond in accommodating the AIDS Network ever since they joined the Black and White Steering Committee. We simply could not have succeeded without their cooperation, professionalism and expert guidance." The classic elegance of Commerce Place, he says, is a perfect setting for this event. (See the complete list of Steering Committee members in this newsletter.)

The Westin Hotel was the other major player in the 1994 Black and White Affair. Supplying not only food and beverage services, the Westin allowed the Network to *borrow* tables, chairs, tablecloths, bars, candles, table-skirts, glassware, silverware ... you name it, the Westin provided it. And they even recruited coffee and pop donors - thank you Dickson's Coffee and Gray Beverage.

The Westin's *Carvery* Manager Brian Welsh kindly agreed to become a member of the Black and White Steering Committee. We're not sure if he completely realized what he was getting

^{a)} Black & White

A F F A I R

Artists united to benefit the AIDS Network of Edmonton Society.

*Salute to big band, blues and jazz.
Invited artists' selected works.*

Proceeds to the AIDS Network of Edmonton Society

Our thanks to all of the performers and their bands, who donated their talents to this event:

Anna Beaumont
John Gray Jazz Trio
David Humphreys (Harp)
Guys in Disguise
Peter Merriweather
Tilo Paiz and 'Amistad'

into last fall when things got started, but Brian and the entire Westin Hotel 'team' were an indispensable component of this year's Black and White!

Speaking of indispensable, there wouldn't be a Black and White without Edmonton's arts and entertainment community. (A complete list of artists and entertainers is featured in this edition of V.I.P.) The AIDS Network proudly salutes the musicians and performers - who all donated their time - for making such a valuable contribution to this event. Joined this year by a number of visual artists in the Silent Auction, the 'Artists For Life' motif becomes even more significant for the AIDS Network.

cont'd...

Sponsors



COMMERCE PLACE



THE WESTIN HOTEL
Edmonton

PRODUCTION
L I G H T I N G



CHERYL ANNE

Lieberman

[TYPO]GRAPHICS

continued from Black and White story

And last - but far from least - the AIDS Network recognizes its volunteers: An enormous thank-you to all of the people who helped in any way with the Black and White. Committee members, the 'muscled' men (and *women*, right Debbie?!) who moved furniture, the people who worked at the event, those who set up, cleaned up and generally put up with sometimes less than glamorous tasks... well, words cannot say how grateful we all are. If your name, your committee, organization,

Sincere thanks to the following businesses for their contributions to the Black and White:

**Big Rock Brewery
Braithwaite Boyle
& Assoc.
Dickson's Coffee
Graham & Lane
Florists
Gray Beverage
Quality Color Press
Select Restaurant
and Bar
Ticket Master
Type Transfers-Silicon
Type and Graphics**

In Grateful Recognition:

All AIDS Network Volunteers

for your hard work prior to, during and after the Black and White Affair. The event could not have been the success it was without your generous contributions of time and effort. Special thanks to the strong-willed folks who loaded and unloaded all the furniture, supplies and food for the event - a heavy-duty task appreciated by everyone!

Special thanks to

EDMONTON'S ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT MAGAZINE

SEE
M A G A Z I N E

COMPLETE LIST OF
BLACK AND WHITE
STEERING COMMITTEE
IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

business or affiliation is not mentioned specifically in this newsletter, please blame only the Fund Raising editor... the AIDS Network has so many kind and generous souls to thank, there is an occasional but completely inadvertent omission. Please call Penny Craig at 488-5742 if this happens.

The AIDS Network of Edmonton Society gratefully acknowledges the following businesses and individuals for their contributions to the overwhelming success of the Silent Auction at the Black and White Affair on January 30/94. The auction alone raised over \$10,000. Please do your shopping/art selection with these outlets/artists and make sure you let them know how much their support of the AIDS Network is appreciated!

a & b Sound
 Alfred Sung
 Larry Andreoff
 Tim Antoniuk
 Applauz Hair Design Ltd.
 Avenue Clothing Co.
 The Bagel Tree
 Baltzan Furnishings Limited
 Brenda Bastell
 Denise Beauregard
 Body Balance
 Con Boland
 Ross Bradley
 Brian Webb Dance Co.
 Clint Buehler
 Robert Kenton Buttreg
 Cafe La Gare
 Cafe Select
 Callebaut Chocolaterie
 Celebrity Hair Salon
 Centre Club
 Robert Chelmick
 Chitter Chatter
 Brian Clark
 Coast Terrace Inn
 Steve Coffey
 Lou Cole
 Concrete Clothiers
 Anne Cunningham
 The Cutting Room
 Da-de-O's
 Dean-O & Laurels Flower Shop
 Deloitte Touche
 Downhill Rider's Ski & Travel Co.
 Edmonton Bowling Centre
 Edmonton Hilton Hotel
 Edmonton Symphony
 Elephants Never Forget

Ann Elsworthy
 Emery's Restaurant
 Enigma Hair Group Ltd.
 Escada
 Peter Field
 Pat Galbraith
 Tom Gale
 Jean Gauthier
 Gramophone
 Judy Hamilton
 Joanne Hay
 Maureen Harvey
 Henry Singer
 Holt Renfrew
 Hotel MacDonald
 ICON Hairdressing Inc.
 Yardley Jones
 Mary Joyce
 Karvonen Films Ltd.
 Pirkko Karvonen
 Yuriko Kitamura
 Lady Ming
 Roy Leadbeater
 Dennis Lenarduzi
 Christopher Lucas
 Amy Luke-Loewan
 Lynn Malin
 B. Malkinson
 Vincent Meseck
 Donald Michalkow
 Miles-Ellis
 Joanna Moore
 Maggie Morris
 Gerry Nason
 National Film Board
 Night Owl Imports
 Occhiali
 Grant Olson
 Omnipresents

Panini e Vini
 Barbara Paterson
 Petals on Second
 Phoenix Theatre
 Jane Ash Poitras
 Joshua Poitras
 Kirk Popik
 Ports for Women
 Princess Theatre
 Nikki Rama
 Dean Tatam Reeves
 Sandy Segal
 Tom Sharp
 Shiatsu Clinic
 Kathy Shirt
 Christian Smith
 Spindrift Gallery
 Robert Solar
 Elke Sommer
 Clay Stam
 Eileen Raucher Sutton
 Syncrude Canada
 Tied-N-Knots
 Edie Todd
 Catherine Toole
 Via Sur Travel
 Volumn II Bookshop
 Von's Steak & Fish House
 Peter Wachowich
 Pat Wagonsveld
 Weekender Ladies Wear
 Westin Hoel - Calgary
 Westin Hotel - Edmonton
 Wilmont Productions Inc.
 Windship Aviation
 Wines International
 Jeff Woods
 Romana T. Yuca
 Zenan's



March

1994



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 6pm - Living Positive Board	2	3 Education Comm. 7pm - Family Group	4	5
6	7 ANE Board Executive	8 6pm - Support Services Comm.	9 8pm - Advisory Committee	10 7-10pm - Volunteer Training 7pm - Family Group	11	12
13	14 7pm - GMOC	15 3pm - PC Team 3pm - African Issues 9:30pm Interagency	16	17 7pm - Family Group	18	19
20 ANE Board Planning Day	21 6-8pm - ANE Board	22	23	24 1:30-4pm - PMG 7pm - Family Group	25	26
27	28	29 1pm - L.P. Coffee Drop-In	30	31		



April

1994



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 CLOSED Good Friday	2
3	4 CLOSED Easter Monday	5 6pm - Living Positive	6	7 6pm - Education Committee	8	9
10	11 7pm - GMOC	12 6pm - Support Services	13	14 12pm - I.C.C.	15	16
17 Volunteer Appreciation Week	18	19 2pm - Staff Meeting	20 7-10pm - Volunteer Appreciation	21 7:30pm - PMG	22	23
24	25	26	27 12pm - I.C.C.	28	29	30